SELECTIONS

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDH, CENTRAL PROVINCES, CENTRAL INDIA, AND RAJPITANA, Received up to 2nd December, 1888.

POLITICAL.

The Oudh Akhbár (Lucknow), of the 30th November,
Anti-National Congress
Meeting held at Qaisarbagh, Lucknow, on the
22nd November.

Sarbagh on the 22nd idem under the presidency of Mahárája
Pratáb Narain Singh of Mahdona. The Akhbár refers to the
causes which prevented many taluqdárs and other noblemen
from attending the meeting, complains of the confusion and
noise made by school boys on the occasion, and publishes
Munshi Imtiaz Ali's speech and the resolutions passed by the

meeting about the establishment of the Indian Loyal Asso-

ciation, giving the names of the members of the newly-formed

association.

Circulation, 690 copies.

The Hindustan (Kalakankar), of the 30th November, Comments on the Anti- adverting to the Anti-National Con-National Congress Meeting gress Meeting held at Lucknow on the 22nd November. The 22nd idem, mentions the names of some of the leading men who attended the meeting, condems Rája Shiva Prasad and his colleagues as time-servers, and remarks that the chief object of the meeting was to consider the expediency of forwarding a memorial to Sir Auckland Colvin, praying for the suppression of the National Congress and suggesting an amendment of the

Circulation, 240 copies. Indian Penal Code for the purpose. The Maharaja of Benares and some other gentlemen have been commissioned to draw up the memorial, but obviously His Highness, with whose intellectual qualifications the public is well acquainted, is quite unfit for the work. Probably the memorial will be written by Raja Shiva Prasad. But Government is gradually finding out the hypocrisy of the opponents of the Congress and is not likely to be deceived by their misrepresentations. Had the Congress been a seditious movement, it would have been suppressed long ago. On the contrary, the object of the Congress is to strengthen the foundation of British rule in this country by securing the redress of the popular grievances.

Circulation, 250 copies. The Azád (Lucknow), of the 30th November, says that
Ríja Shiva Prasád and
the Indian Patriotic Association.

Rája Shiva Prasád's unwise proceedings at the Lucknow Anti-National
Congress Meeting of the 22nd idem
are to be greatly regretted. His letter in the Pioneer is
full of false statements. If the Talukdárs of Oudh have
established a separate association, they are welcome to it;
but no sensible man would like to see the Indian Patriotic
Association injured in any way. The Indian Patriotic
Association would do well to discontinue its connection with

Circulation, 690 copies. the Rája.

The Oudh Akhbar (Lucknow), of the 28th November, says that the secret object of the Comments on the Napromoters of the National Congress tional Congress. is to destroy the British supremacy in this country. At present they agitate only for the reform of the Legislative Councils, the repeal of the Arms Act, and so forth; but these proposals are only a prelude to their chief object, viz., the expulsion of the English from India. The writer argues that the term National Congress is a misnomer, inasmuch as the Indians do not form one nation, but are divided into many classes or nations having different sentiments, wants, and aspirations. If the Congressists are really anxious to promote the best interests of the country, they should begin with social reform, as the Hon'ble Raja Amir Hasan told

Mr. Bhimji at an interview with him. If they are allowed to preach sedition and excite discontent among the people in the way they have been doing of late, a general rebellion like that of 1857 will break out before long. The ruined landlords, the starving Pathans, the indigent Rajputs, and the criminal classes cannot be content with the use of the pen.

The Hindustán (Kálákankar), of the 27th November, says that Sir Auckland Colvin's letter

Mr. Hume's reply to Sir Auckland Colvin's letter about the National Con-

about the National Congress has given

the opponents of the movement a fresh opportunity of abusing its promoters. The Pioneer states that Mr. Hume was turned out of the public service, and that consequently he is opposed to Government. Nothing could be more unfounded than such a statement. The bestowal on him of the title of C. B. shows in what high respect he was held by Government. True his post was abolished, but he was given another post on the same pay. Some men have contributed letters to newspapers condemning Mr. Hume's reply to His Honor's letter as an utter failure; but they are wrong: Mr. Hume has thoroughly answered every objection of the Lieutenant-Governor's. The most powerful argument urged by Sir Auckland Colvin against the Congress is that the movement is seditious, inasmuch as the pamphlets published by its promoters are calculated to lead the ignorant masses to imagine that the British Government is very tyrannical and oppressive. But Mr. Hume clearly shows that the masses are quite alive to the shortcomings of the British Government, and that they really believe that it has more faults than those referred to in the pamphlets. He says that the only new thing which the pamphlets teach the people is how the defects of British administration can be remedied, and that obviously this teaching will check rather than excite sedition. All unprejudiced men are of opinion that Mr. Hume's reply to Sir Auckland Colvin's letter is an excellent one, except in so far that he has indulged in personalities. Ne doubt it would have been better if he had refrained from entering into personalities. Sir Saiyid Ahmad Khán, the Mahárája of Benarce, the Raja of Bhinga, and

Circulation, 240 copies.

Munshi Nawal Kishore have endeavoured to answer his strictures through the columns of the Pioneer as best they could. It is a matter of satisfaction to see natives answering the attacks made on them by Europeans through newspapers. The way in which the old Mahárája of Benares challenges Mr. Hume to a fight shows that the Mahárája possesses some of the spirit of Don Quixote.

Circulation,

The Prayág Samáchár (Allahabad), of the 26th NovemElection of delegates at ber, on the authority of a correspondGorakhpur for the National Congress.

ings of a public meeting held at the Mission School in Gorakhpur on the 13th idem. Sháh Alam, an old respectable landlord, presided, and the attendance was about 1,500 men, being composed of Hindús, Musalmáns, and native Christians. The meeting elected 18 delegates for the ensuing National Congress at Allahabad, and about Rs. 200 were raised at once from public subscription to meet the expenses of the Congress.

Circulation, 300 copies.

A Muhammadan correspondent of the Surma-i-Rozgár (Agra), of the 24th November, urges National Congress. upon Hindús and Musalmáns the importance of union, and tells them that if they continue to quarrel with one another in the way they have lately been doing, Government will be obliged to treat both of them with severity. The writer condemns the statement made by some Musalmans to the effect that union between the two communities is impossible, and says that he does not see why Hindús and Musalmans should not be able to work together in political matters in the way Roman Catholics and Protestants do. The writer then condemns the charge of disloyalty brought against the promoters of the National Congress by its opponents as false, and says that the opponents are animated by a desire of ingratiating themselves with Government officials. Had the Congress been a seditious movement, it would have been suppressed by this time. Again, it should be observed that the promoters of the Congress, among whom there are many men of light and leading, would gain nothing by exciting a rebellion in the country. Even if the

Congress does not succeed in inducing Government to adopt any of its proposals, it should still be considered a very useful institution, inasmuch as it affords the inhabitants of the different parts of the country an opportunity of making the acquaintance of and interchanging thoughts with one another.

The Hindustan (Kalakankar), of the 29th November, says that soon after the National

Re-organization of a portion of the armies of native Congress at Calcutta had been over, princes.

Lord Dufferin publicly declared that he could not but view with friendly feelings the efforts made by some men to encourage union among the different classes of people in this country. Obviously his Lordship meant the National Congress and considered its proceedings as calculated to encourage union among the people and to strengthen the foundation of British rule. In fact, his Lordship has already begun to adopt the proposals of the Congress, for which great praise is due to him. Among other proposals made by the last National Congress there was one to the effect that Government should provide good military training for the sons of native princes, in order that the princes might be able to send their armies under the command of their sons to the field for the assistance of Government in time of need; and another to the effect that Government should endeavour to improve the condition of the princes, as they have given repeated proof of their loyalty. Lord Dufferin's speech at Patiala on the occasion of the Mahárája's marriage shows that his Lordship has taken the proposals of the Congress into consideration, and holds out a hope that Government will make many desirable concessions to natives ere long. The Hindustan then quotes an extract from the speech in which the Viceroy explained the way in which the Government of India had decided to improve the efficiency of a portion of the armies of native princes, and remarks that it is evident that the Government has full confidence in the loyalty of the Indian Chiefs. The policy which the Government desires to inaugurate is sure to be extended in course of time. At present only a portion of the forces of the Native States will be reformed and re-organized. The next step will be the re-organization of Circulation, 240 copies. their entire forces, and then Government will see its way to enlisting native Volunteers. There is reason to hope that all the proposals of the Congress, which are just and fair, will be sanctioned by Government one by one in course of time.

NATIVE STATES.

Circulation, 150 copies.

The Mashir-i-Qaisar (Lucknow), of the 23rd November,

Kunwar Lutf Ali Khán's says that as Kunwar Lutf Ali Khán,
resignation of his appointment in Rámpur.

Member of the State Council in Rámpur, found it impossible to perform
his duty with justice and impartiality, he has resigned his
appointment. He deserves high praise for his conscientiousness and love of justice and truthfulness.

Circulation, 173 copies.

The Charpúz (Moradabad), of the 21st November, received on the 27th idem, in its suppleradabad and General Azimument, states that it was generally expected that at his late visit to Mo-

radabad Sir Auckland Colvin would not only lay the foundation-stone of the Female Hospital, but also decide the case of the Rampur princes who are dissatisfied with their treatment by the Nawab. But the Charpuz is inclined to think that His Honor did not decide the case of the princes, and passed his time only in attending feasts and entertainments, as had been foretold by it. It must be said to General Azimu-l-din Khán's credit that he knows very well how to escape difficulties by making a free use of money. It would seem that even British justice yields to money. The Rampur princes, apprehending illtreatment at Rámpur, took up their abode at Moradabad; but there is reason to think that they will not be allowed to live there in peace in future and are likely to be brought into difficulty by the institution of false prosecutions against them. Lately a false prosecution on a charge of assault has been instituted against Sahabzada Muhammad Ali Khan, alias Chhutan Sahab, by a barber named Ashraf. Hence the other princes had better be on the alert and migrate to some distant place, where they may be beyond the reach of their enemies. The Charpuz also complains that it is rumoured that General Azimu-l-din Khán is intriguing with the local authorities, who frequently receive favours

from the Rampur State, with a view to bring the editor into trouble.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

The Akhbar-i-Chunar, of the 27th November, complains

The raising of the Anglo-Vernacular Middle-class Examination fees. that according to the circular of the Director of Public Instruction, No. $\frac{G}{52}$ dated 16th November, 1888, the rates

Examination fees. dated 16th November, 1888, the rates of the Anglo-Vernacular Middle-class Examination fees have greatly been raised. It is difficult to understand why such high fees have been fixed, or, in other words, why such a heavy tax is levied on education, particularly as little importance is attached to the examination above referred to by Government as well as the public. The examination in its present shape is a great impediment to the progress of English education in these provinces. As the candidates have to learn almost all the subjects for the examination in vernacular, they acquire but a smattering of English, and their want of proficiency in that language greatly interferes with their success at the University examinations. Indeed, they possess such a slight knowledge of English that neither the heads of Government offices nor of private firms desire to avail themselves of their services. The increase in the Anglo-Vernacular Middle-class Examination fees is likely to check the spread of education as above stated. It is true that the University examination fees in other civilized countries exceed those in India, but the latter is a much poorer country than the former. No doubt this country was very rich before, but of late it has been entirely drained of its wealth by Europe. The increase lately made in the school fees by the Director of Public Instruction presses heavily on the people. Many inhabitants of Chunar have been obliged to withdraw their sons from the Mission school there owing to the raising of the fees. Both the school and the examination fees should be reduced with a view to encouraging the spread of education. The rates of the Middle-class Examination fees have one very striking feature about them. The rate for the private candidates is almost double that for the students of Government and aided schools!

Circulation, 160 copies. Why different fees have been fixed for the two classes of candidates is more than one can understand. No University levies different fees in this way. In conclusion, the Akhbar urges that the school fees should be again reduced, that the middle-class examination should be abolished, and that, if the examination be not abolished, the subjects for the examination should be taught in English.

Circulation, 85 copies. The Almora Akhbar, of the 26th November, complains

Neglect of physical eduof the alleged decline of the physique
cation in Kumaun.

of the inhabitants of Kumaun, ascribes
the decline to the neglect of physical education in schools,
and urges that the people should provide such education for
their children.

Circulation, 300 copies.

The Mihr-i-Nimroz (Bijnor), of the 28th November, complains that during the winter tour of Winter tours of Government officials. last year the Viceroy was chiefly engaged in shooting and other sports. Accounts of the bags made by him on each occasion were frequently to be found in newspapers. Similarly evening parties and other entertainments play an important part in the tours of Lieutenant-Governors. When Government officials go into camp, they should always keep in view the objects for which winter tours were inaugurated. They should make a point of inquiring into the condition and the grievances of the people, and consider shooting and other such sports as matters of secondary importance. The Mihr would like to make some comments on Sir Auckland Colvin's tour in Oudh, which has has lately commenced, but courtesy prevents it from doing so. It will only draw His Honor's attention to the good advice given him by the Azad. It then quotes the comments made by the Azad of the 16th November (see the Selections from the vernacular newspapers for the week ending 18th November, 1888, page 757).

Circulation, 240 copies. The Hindustan (Kalakankar), of the 27th November,

Honorarium paid to Dr. expresses concurrence with the Pioneer
Freyer, the Civil Surgeon of Moradabad, by the Nawab of Rampur.

Freyer, the Civil Surgeon of Moradabad, has a fair claim to the honorarium of one lakh of rupees

given him by the Nawab of Rampur, inasmuch as the honorarium was given voluntarily and openly by His Highness and in return for an important service rendered. The anxiety of Government to save native princes from extravagance is highly commendable, but Government is not well advised in interfering in a matter like the one above referred to. If it reduced the valuable presents which native chiefs have to make to Residents, Political Agents, Lieutenant-Governors, and other high officials, the reduction would give some relief to them.

A correspondent of the Nasim-i-Agra, of the 30th Sale of stamps at the November, complains that suitors, camps of officials on tour. whose cases are pending before officials touring in the interior of districts and who have occasion to file petitions before them, do not know where to get court-fee stamps. Either a stamp-vendor should accompany each official in tour, or one of the official's subordinates should carry stamps with him for sale.

Circulation,

620 copies.

The Subodh Sindhu (Khandwa), of the 28th November,

Confiscation of Jambupa:
disapproves of the orders issued by
the Commissioner for the confiscation
of the revenue-free Jambupani estate,

Circulation, 250 copies.

situate in Barhanpur tahsíl, Nimar district, owing to the alleged want of a legal heir to the estate, and argues that Gulzar Khán, cousin to Mahtáb Khán, deceased, the late owner of the estate, is a legal heir. The Sindhu adds that the Commissioner's proceeding has created suspicions in the minds of other holders of revenue-free estates in Barhanpur, and asks the Chief Commissioner to make an inquiry into the case and do justice to Gulzar Khán.

The Dabdaba-i-Qaisari (Bareilly), of the 1st December, complains that in some parts of the Madras and Bombay Presidencies the famine-stricken people have already begun to commit robberies, and that there is great searcity of grain in almost all the districts of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. Indeed, abnormally high prices prevail throughout India. It is time that Government should open relief works on an

Circulation, 200 copies. extensive scale. What has Government done with the 31 erors of rupees which it obtained from the Gwalior treasury? Surely the whole amount has not been spent on the frontier defences.

Circulation, 491 copies. The Rajputana Gazette (Ajmere), of the 26th November, publishes a long article communipulation of Harnam Singh, late a Sub-Overseer, cated by one Harnam Singh, late a Sub-Overseer in Ajmere, who has been dismissed from his post. In answer to the charge of dishonesty brought against him by a correspondent of the Gazette he gives some proofs of his honesty, charges Babu Rajeshar Mittra, Assistant Engineer, and Pandit Kalian Das, Sub-Overseer, Ajmere, with dishonesty, and asks Government to enquire into his case and do him justice.

Circulation, 240 copies.

The Kanouj Punch, of the 1st December, says that Government instituted criminal pro-Use of obscene language by drunkards in public streets and thoroughfares. secutions against several editors, who had published advertisements aphrodisiacs in their newspapers, on the charge of using obscene language, and got them convicted and punished by criminal courts. The measure was unjustifiable, inasmuch as the publishers could not help using obscene terms in explaining the efficacy of their aphrodisiaes. But why does not Government prosecute those men who get drunk and then make use of most obscene language in public streets and thoroughfares? Does it not interfere with them because it derives a large revenue from the sale of liquor?

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

Circulation, 250 copies. The Azad (Lucknow), of the 20th November, regrets Custom of adorning to notice that children are frequently children with ornaments. killed by thieves for the sake of their ornaments. A man killed a child and robbed it of its ornaments, which were not worth more than a rupee and a half. What can be more cruel than this? Although such cruel murders are of frequent occurrence, neither do the people consider it expedient to discontinue adorning their children with trinkets nor does Government see its way to

Government should be unwilling to interfere with the custom above referred to, while it has put a stop to sutteeism, which was based on religious belief. It would have been a good thing if the promoters of the National Congress had turned their attention to such social reforms.

The Dabdaba-i-Qaisari (Bareilly), of the 24th November, Sale of beef at Bareilly.

complains that in Bareilly beef is allowed to be sold at shops situated near Sabzi Mandi (vegetable market) and the Mission School and on the Hospital Road, and that no screens have been put up in front of the shops. In no other city is beef allowed to be sold at stalls in public streets and thoroughfares, and in some cities even mutton is sold at out-of-the-way places. It is to be hoped that the Municipal Board of Bareilly will order all meat shops, especially those where beef is sold, to be removed from public streets and thoroughfaers.

Circulation, 200 copies.

The Bráhman (Cawnpore), for November, condemns the Custom of gambling on custom, which prevails among Hindús, the occasion of the Devali. of gambling on the occasion of the Devali festival, refers to the evil consequences which accrue from it, and advises them to put a stop to it.

Circulation, 145 copies.

The Tahsib (Moradabad), of the 27th November, on the Shoe-makers and Musal- authority of a correspondent, states máns in Bijnor. that on the 8th October the shoemakers of the Bijnor district simultaneously held meetings at all the chief towns and villages in the district and made some rules to regulate their relations with Musalmans. One of the rules forbids shoe-makers to partake of food prepared by a Musalman. If a shoe-maker breaks the rule, he will be fined Rs. 25 and turned out of society for 12 years by the local nunchait of his community. Another rule provides that any woman of that community found carrying on a love-intrigue with a Musalman will be fined Rs. 5. The income derived from such fines will be devoted to the support of poor widows. The writer says that the question is who instigated the shoe-makers of

Circulation, 60 ccopies. Bijnor to hold meetings on the same day throughout the district and make such rules soon after the occurrence of the Muharram riots. He adds that the sweepers, too, sympathize with their Hindu brethren and are inclined to refrain from taking food prepared by Musalmans.

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The 8th December, 1888.

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PRINTED AT THE M.-W. P. AND OUDH GOVERNMENT PRESS, ALLAHARD.

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SELECTIONS

CHURAL ADACKTORY

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

Received up to 9th December, 1888.

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